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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Applicant : Constantine J. Tsikos
Application Serial No.: 10/067,540
Filing Date : February 5, 2002
Title: PLANAR LASER ILLUMINATION AND IMAGING
MODULE (PLIIM) BASED SEMICONDUCTOR CHIPS
Examiner : Ahshik Kim
Group Art Unit : 2876
Attorney Docket No. : 108-127USANC0

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 312(a)

SIR:

Prior to payment of Issue Fee in the present Application, please amend the same as follows:

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 263-268, 273 and 275-277 as follows:

Claims 1-262 (canceled)

Claim 263 (currently amended): A planar laser illumination and imaging module (PLIIM) realized on a semiconductor chip for integration into a system having a working range, said PLIIM comprising:

a pair of micro-sized diffractive or refractive cylindrical lens arrays mounted upon a pair of ~~large~~ linear arrays of surface emitting lasers (SELs) for producing a plurality of substantially planar laser beam components,

said pair of linear arrays being fabricated on opposite sides of a linear electronic image detection array provided with optics having a field of view (FOV),

wherein said plurality of substantially planar laser beam components produce a composite substantially planar laser illumination beam that has substantially planar spatial distribution characteristics that extend through said field of view so that laser light reflected off